

**SELF-SEALING COMPACT SPINNERET FOR A MELT SPINNING PROCESS**

**SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION**

OK TO ENTER  
JSD  
12/1/03

**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a national stage of PCT/EP00/05840  
5 filed 24 June 2000 and is based upon German national application  
199 35 982.2 filed 30 July 1999 under the International  
Convention.

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

10 The invention relates to a spinneret for the spinning  
of thermoplastics having a central polymer melt inlet passage, a  
filter arrangement comprised of one or more filter disks of  
different filter finenesses or filter grades, a spinneret plate  
and a housing close-fitting around and receiving the filter  
arrangement and the spinneret plate.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

15 Pressure build-up, shear and filtering of the polymer  
to be spun in a spinneret are usually accomplished by means of a  
sand filling as is described for example in U.S. Patent 5,304,052  
or U.S. Patent 5,795,595. These sand fillings, whether of steel  
20 grit or pure quartz sand, are however associated with various  
drawbacks: for one, the sand fillings themselves are not  
identical from spinneret to spinneret even when prepared with the